(c) the terms and conditions agreed to while giving the contract to a foreign airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Air India has wetleased B747 aircraft from M*. Tower Air, a New York based airline, to ferry Haj pilgrims from and to India.

(b) Deployment of Air India aircraft, for Haj movement, would have involved large scale disruption of scheduled Air India flights, causing inconvenience to thousands of passengers.

(c) Ms. Tower Air has contracted to carry about 30,864 pilgrims over 70 flights in each direction between four points in India-viz. Bombay, Delhi,. Calcutta and Madras and Jeddah at a contracted price of US $ 14,660,400 (or approximately Rs. 42.18 crores) which covers aircraft hire, crew, all maintenance support, HulK third party insurance and fuel. Other cost of operations are to be borne by Air India.

Fall in Indian Airlines and Air India market share

5220. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines has lost 37 percent market share and Air India 21 percent since the introduction of liberalization scheme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in other countries Government first strengthened their national careers before taking such a step; and

(c) if so, what steps Government proposed to take or have already taken to equip these national careers to meet the rising situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) After dcmonopolisation of domestic air transport sector market share of Indian Airlines progressively came down to 63.7% in 1994-95. Air India's market share came down from 24.5% in 1990 to 20.4% in 1993.

(b) Governments of countries take steps keeping in view their specific economic conditions and circumstances.

(c) Air India and Indian Airlines are taking steps to fact the competition by improving their product, image and on time performance.

गया हवाई अड्डे का आधुनिकीकरण

5221. श्री नरेश यादव: क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या बिहार में बोध गया विदेशी पर्यटकों के लिए आकर्षण एक प्रमुख स्थल है जहां बड़ी संख्या में विदेशी पर्यटक आते हैं;

(ख) क्या बिहार का सबसे बड़ा हवाई अड्डा गया में स्थित है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस हवाई अड्डे को सही और दुरूस्त करने पर गंभीरता-पूर्वक विचार कर रही है जिससे कि बड़ी संख्या में विदेशी पर्यटकों को आकृष्ट किया जा सके?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद): (क) जी हां।

(ख) जी नहीं।

(ग) गया हवाई अड्डे का बोइंग 737 और एयरबस 320 प्रकार के विमानों के लिए उन्नयन किया जा सकता है। तथापि, इस परियोजना की अनुमानित लागत बिना रडारों के 24.30 करोड़ रुपए और रडारों सहित 54.30 करोड़ रुपए है। संसाधनों की कमी के कारण भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण के लिए इस हवाई अड्डे का उन्नयन करना संभव नहीं है।